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Identical letters dated 25 December 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 25 December 2002.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Salman Ali**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the identical letters dated 25 December 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Activities of the IAEA and UNMOVIC inspection teams in Iraq

Inspection activities carried out on Wednesday 25 December 2002

I. IAEA inspection team

The IAEA inspection team, composed of six inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. At 10 a.m. it arrived at the Fath State Enterprise, which belongs to the Hattin State Company, one of the entities belonging to the Military Industrialization Corporation. The plant, which is located 80 kilometres south of Baghdad, specializes in the manufacture of materials entering into the manufacture of traditional munitions. Upon arriving, the team held a meeting with a plant official, asking him questions about the number of employees and the structure of the plant. Next the team, using portable equipment, conducted a radiation survey of all the streets of the plant with a view to detecting any radioactivity. The team then inspected the additions to the plant. It completed its mission at 11.50 a.m. and proceeded to another site.

The team arrived at the Qaqaa State Company at 12.30 p.m. and proceeded immediately to calculate the number of 81-millimetre aluminium tubes, which according to accusations contained in the report of British Prime Minister Tony Blair were being used for centrifuges for the manufacture of atomic bombs, whereas the tubes were being used for the manufacture of 81-millimetre rockets having a range of 10 kilometres. The team took an 81-millimetre tube and photographed all the tubes. The team completed its mission at 2.25 p.m.

At 2.55 p.m. the team arrived at the Umm al-Ma`arik Company, which belongs to the Military Industrialization Corporation. The Company, which is located 30 kilometres south of Baghdad, specializes in machining. The team inspected one of the machines included under monitoring and observed the stages of drawing and working of tubes from aluminium ingots for 81-millimetre rockets. The team then took photographs and video films of the stages of processing. The team completed its mission at 3.14 p.m. and arrived at the Canal Hotel at 3.45 p.m.

II. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

The team, which was composed of 13 inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.40 a.m. It arrived at the Taji gas facility, located 20 kilometres north of Baghdad, at 9.30 a.m., whereupon it immediately proceeded to the Research and Quality Control Department building. During the 1980s the building had been occupied by the pilot unit for the production of single-cell protein from petroleum derivatives. The protein is used in the production of animal fodder. The team inspected the building and addressed to the liaison officer at the National Monitoring Directorate a number of questions relating to activities in the building. It then inspected the warehouses. The team completed its mission at 10.50 a.m. and returned to the Canal Hotel at 11.20 a.m.

III. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

The team, which was composed of eight inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. It arrived at the Ibn al-Haytham site belonging to the Karamah State Company, one of the establishments of the Military Industrialization Corporation, at 9 a.m. The site, which is located 10 kilometres north of Baghdad, specializes in the production of parts for missiles within the range permitted under the Security Council resolutions. The site had been inspected by an IAEA team on 10 December 2002 and by an UNMOVIC team on 13 December 2002. The team took an inventory of the materials under monitoring and a group from the team checked the tagged items. The team completed its mission at 11.42 a.m. and returned to the Canal Hotel at 12.20 p.m.

IV. UNMOVIC inspection team (chemical)

The team, which was composed of 14 inspectors, spent the night of 24-25 December 2002 in Basra. It left the hotel at 8.10 a.m. and arrived at the State Enterprise for Pulp and Paper Industries, which belongs to the Ministry of Industry and Minerals and is located 50 kilometres north of Basra, at 9 a.m. The team met with the general manager of the Enterprise and inquired about new machinery, the Enterprise's projects and its future plans for the development of production lines, and the questions were answered. The team then inspected salt production, checked the declarations and tagged items and inspected the chlorine unit. The team completed its mission at 12.45 p.m. and returned to Baghdad, reaching the Canal Hotel at 7 p.m.

V. UNMOVIC joint inspection team (chemical, missiles, biological)

The team, which was composed of 20 inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 6.30 a.m. After passing the town of Ramadi, located 120 kilometres west of Baghdad, the team split into two groups, as follows:

Group I

Group I arrived at one of the airbases in the Baghdadi region at 9.55 a.m. Upon its arrival, the team met the commander of the base and asked him numerous questions, to which answers were provided. The team then inspected various areas on the base. It completed its mission at 12.35 p.m. and returned to the Canal Hotel at 4.50 p.m.

Group II

Group II arrived at an army depot located west of the town of Ramadi at 9.50 a.m. The group inspected the depot and asked the officials in charge there questions about the contents of the depot. The team completed its mission at 4.25 p.m. and returned to the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 7.90 [sic] p.m.

VI. Remarks

The IAEA and UNMOVIC inspection teams carried out surprise inspection missions that included seven sites in the governorates of Baghdad, Basra and Anbar. The 61 inspectors who participated in the missions met with site officials, who answered their questions and requests for information. The inspectors, using portable equipment, carried out radiation surveys with a view to detecting any radioactivity and took still and video photographs of some equipment and locations.